U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TRANSMITTAL LETTER AND Docket Number REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF 11443/160 TIME PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.136 (a) **Application Number** Filing Date Examiner Art Unit Gloria R. Weeks 3721 10/785,672 February 23, 2004 **Invention Title** Inventors SURGICAL CUTTING AND STAPLING WHITMAN et al.

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandra, VA 22313-1450 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Date: Oct .27

Signature:

Sir:

DEVICE

- Transmitted herewith for filing is a response to the Restriction Requirement mailed July 22, 2005, for the above-identified application.
- Applicant hereby requests a three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action mailed July 22, 2005 which set a one-month period for response ending on August 22, 2005. The three-month extended period for response expires on November 22, 2005. Please charge the \$510.00 extension fee and any additional fees to the deposit account of Kenyon & Kenyon, deposit account number 11-0600. A duplicate of this transmittal letter is enclosed for that purpose.

Date: Oct . 27, 2005

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Respectfully submitted, KENYON & KENYON

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